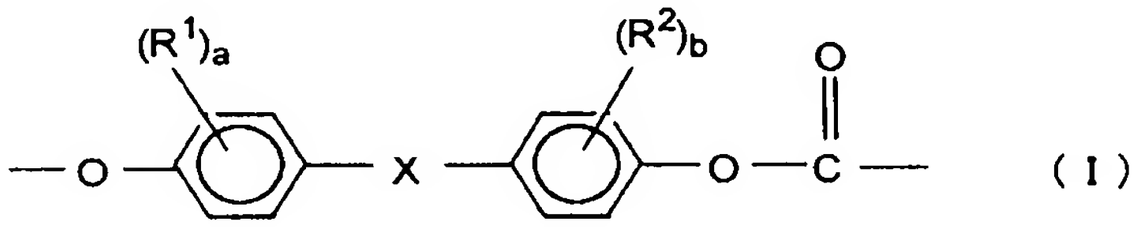
IN THE CLAIMS

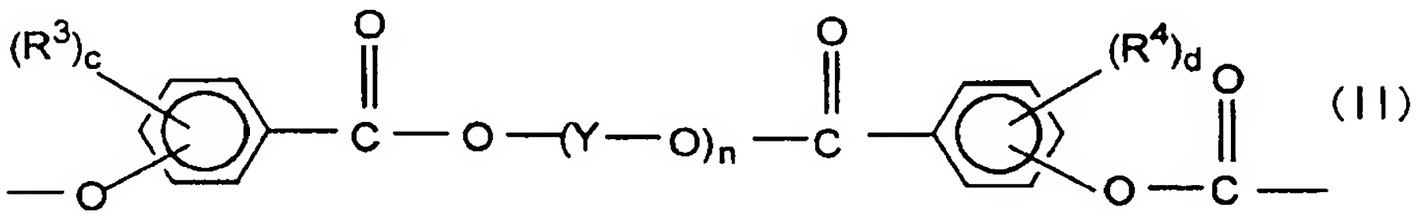
Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a polycarbonate copolymer ~~through interfacial polymerization, the copolymer having~~ comprising structural repeating units represented by formulas (I) and (II):

~~[F1]~~



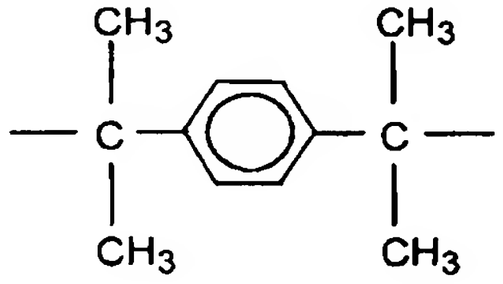
(I)



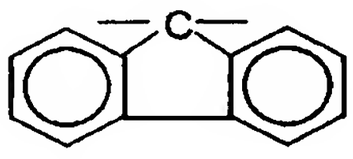
(II)

[[(]]wherein each of R^1 and R^2 independently represents a C1 to C6 alkyl group; X represents a single bond, a C1 to C8 alkylene group, a C2 to C8 alkylidene group, a C5 to C15 cycloalkylene group, a C5 to C15 cycloalkylidene group, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -O-, -CO-, or a ~~bond~~ group represented by formula (III-1) or (III-2):

~~[F2]~~



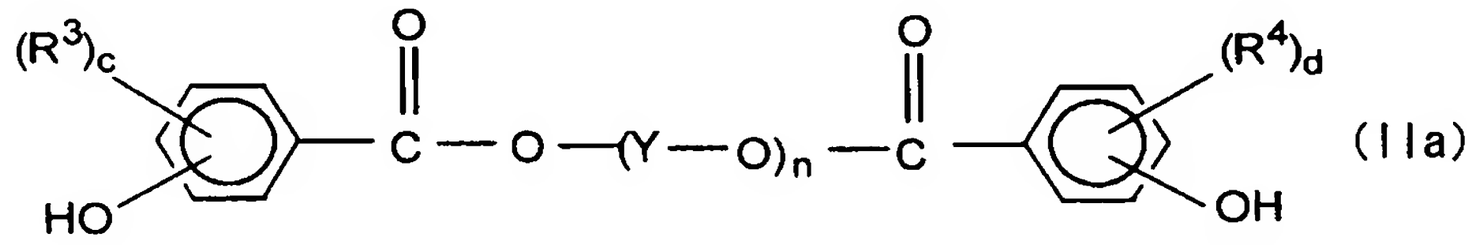
(III-1)



(III-2)

; each of R^3 and R^4 independently represents a C1 to C3 alkyl group; Y represents a C2 to C15 linear-chain or branched alkylene group; a to d are independently integers of 0 to 4; and n is an integer of 2 to 450[[)]] , by reacting (A) a dihydric phenol, (B) a phenol-modified diol

and (C) a carbonate precursor, wherein the phenol-modified diol (B) is represented by formula (IIa) and comprises 500 ppm by mass or less of a hydroxybenzoic acid:



(IIa)

where R^3, R^4, Y, c, d and n are as defined above ~~characterized in that a phenol-modified diol having a hydroxybenzoic acid content of 500 ppm by mass or less is employed as a starting material~~.

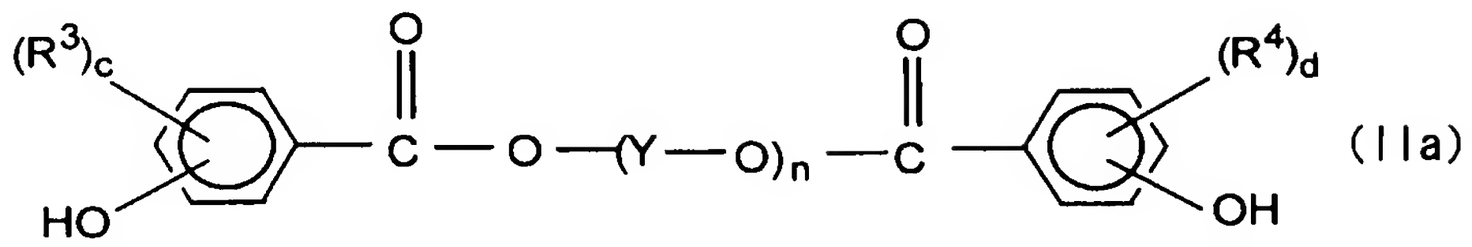
Claim 2 (Original): A method for producing a polycarbonate copolymer as described in claim 1, wherein the phenol-modified diol has a hydroxybenzoic acid alkyl ester content of 1.0 mass% or less.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A method for producing a polycarbonate copolymer as described in claim 1, wherein the hydroxybenzoic acid is p-hydroxybenzoic acid.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A method for producing a polycarbonate copolymer as described in claim 2, wherein the hydroxybenzoic acid alkyl ester is a p-hydroxybenzoic acid alkyl ester.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A comonomer ~~for producing a polycarbonate resin~~ represented by formula (IIa):

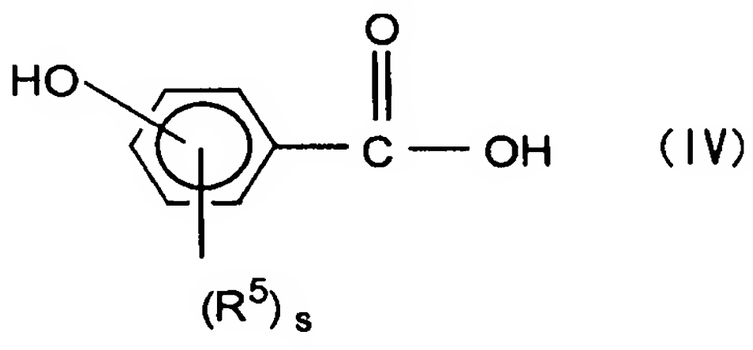
~~[F3]~~



(IIa)

[[(]]wherein each of R^3 and R^4 independently represents a C1 to C3 alkyl group; Y represents a C2 to C15 linear-chain or branched alkylene group; c and d are independently integers of 0 to 4; and n is an integer of 2 to 450[[)]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the amount of a hydroxybenzoic acid ~~acting as an impurity and~~ represented by formula (IV) present therein is 500 ppm by mass or less:

~~[F4]~~

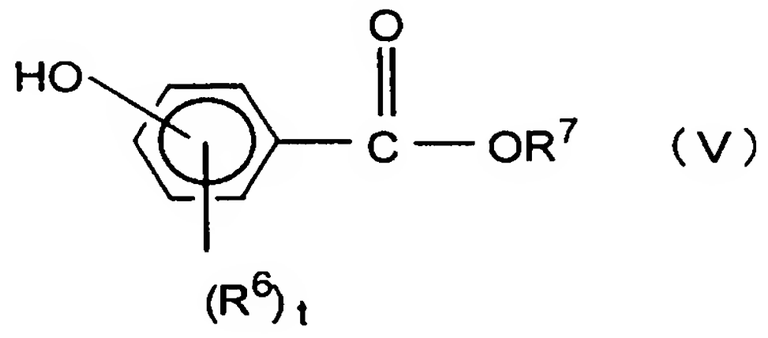


(IV)

[[(]] wherein R^5 is a C1 to C3 alkyl group, and s is an integer of 0 to 4[[)]] ~~is 500 ppm by mass or less~~.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A comonomer ~~for producing a polycarbonate resin as described~~ as claimed in claim 5 ~~1~~, in which the amount of a hydroxybenzoic acid alkyl ester ~~acting as an impurity and~~ represented by formula (V) therein is 1.0 mass% or less:

~~[F5]~~



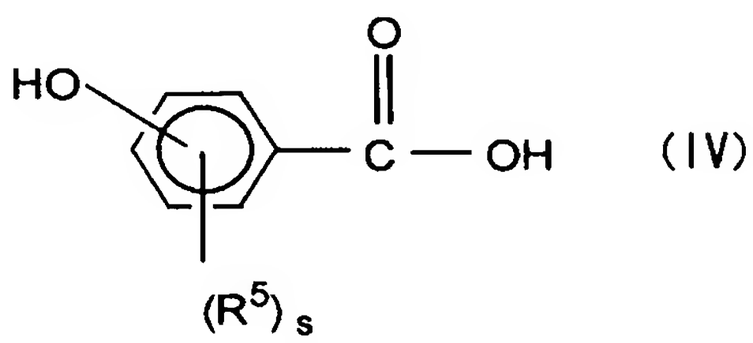
(V)

[[(]] wherein R^6 is a C1 to C3 alkyl group; R^7 is a C1 to C10 alkyl group; and t is an integer of 0 to 4[[)]] ~~is 1.0 mass% or less~~.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A comonomer ~~for producing a polycarbonate resin~~ as described in claim 5, wherein n in formula (IIa) is 2 to 200.

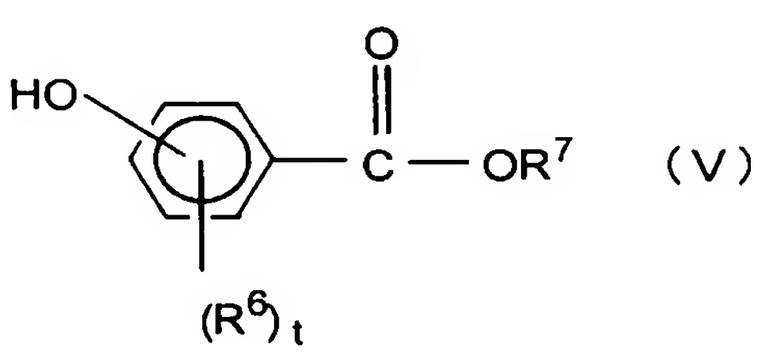
Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A comonomer for ~~producing a polycarbonate resin~~ as described in claim 5, which is produced through esterification between a poly(alkylene ether glycol) and a hydroxybenzoic acid represented by formula (IV):

~~[F6]~~



[[(]]wherein R^5 is a C1 to C3 alkyl group, and s is an integer of 0 to 4[[)]] and/or a hydroxybenzoic acid alkyl ester represented by formula (V):

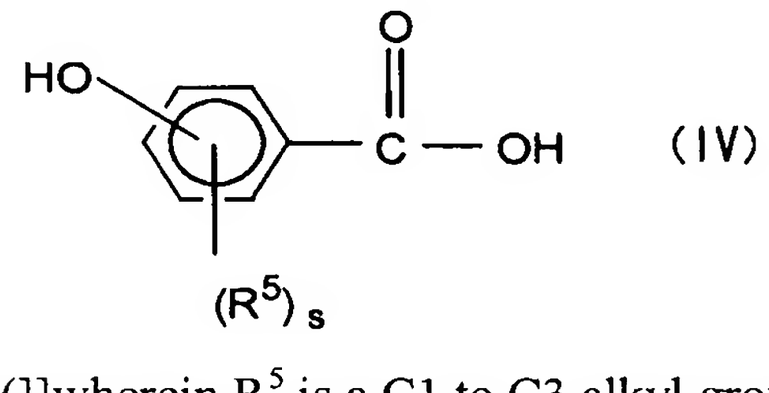
~~[F7]~~



[[(]]wherein R^6 is a C1 to C3 alkyl group; R^7 is a C1 to C10 alkyl group; and t is an integer of 0 to 4[[)]].

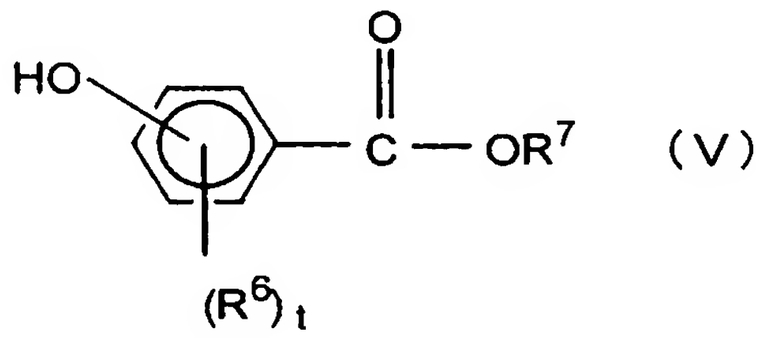
Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a comonomer ~~for producing a polycarbonate resin, characterized by~~ comprising esterifying ~~between~~ a poly(alkylene ether glycol) ~~and~~ with a hydroxybenzoic acid represented by formula (IV):

~~[F8]~~



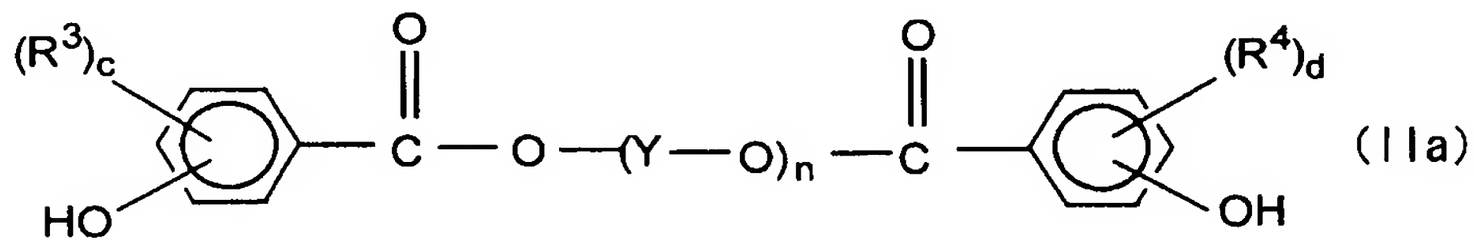
[[(]]wherein R^5 is a C1 to C3 alkyl group, and s is an integer of 0 to 4[[)]] and/or a hydroxybenzoic acid alkyl ester represented by formula (V):

~~[F9]~~



[[(]]wherein R^6 is a C1 to C3 alkyl group; R^7 is a C1 to C10 alkyl group; and t is an integer of 0 to 4[[)]], to ~~thereby~~ yield a reaction mixture ~~containing~~ comprising a compound represented by formula (IIa):

~~[F10]~~



[[(]]wherein each of R^3 and R^4 independently represents a C1 to C3 alkyl group; Y represents a C2 to C15 linear-chain or branched alkylene group; c and d are independently integers of 0 to 4; and n is an integer of 2 to 450[[)]], and, subsequently, treating the reaction mixture with an aqueous alkaline solution.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a comonomer ~~for producing a polycarbonate resin~~ as described in claim 9, wherein the aqueous alkaline solution has a pH of 8 to 11.